Publicity to Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 1993

465. SHRI INDER KUMAR GUJRAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there has been considerable increase in kidnapping cases including child kidnapping cases, in Delhi

(b) if so, the reasons that even after enactment of Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 1993, which provides death penalty for acts of kidnapping, cases of kidnapping continued to increase;

(c) whether Government have analysed the reasons for increase in the kidnapping cases;

(d) the steps Government have contemplated to meet the situation; and

(e) whether Government are giving sufficient publicity to thee provisions of Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 1993; if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Increase in cases of kidnapping in Delhi is attributable to the following:—

(1) Since the families of the kidnapped persons generally are tightlipped with the police, referring to conduct ransom negotiations and hostage rescue privately, and convictions seldom occur owing to the reluctance of the victims to depose in the court, kidnapping is regarded by criminal elements as a very easy way of making big money quickly.

(2) Rise in instances of personal enmity owing to business rivalry property disputes and other causes.

(3) Elopement, wherein, in most cases, the minor girls know the accused.

(d) Several measures have been taken to check the crime of kidnapping: kidnappers and other criminals having a previous history are kept under surveillance; intelligence gathering machinery has also been geared up; motor cycle patrolling as well as surveillance by P.C.R. vans have been intensified; press advertisements have been published for educating the public about safety measures; special cells have been created in the Crime Branch and also in each of the 9 police districts, assigning dedicated teams for investigation of kidnapping and abduction cases; safety tips for parents of school-going children have been prepared, widely published in the newspapers and circulated to all the schools; and school staff is being trained in tightening security measures.

(e) The provisions of the "The Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 1993" have been given wide publicity.

Action plan against smuggler Veerappan

466. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government had drawn up an Action Plan against the gang of the smuggler and poacher, Shri K. M. Veerappan in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the steps taken to implement that Action Plan; and

(c) the result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Law and order situation in North Eastern region

467. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the deterioration in the law and order situation in the North-Eastern region as pointed out in an editorial in the Hindustan Times dated the 14th February, 1995 captioned "A routine red alert";

(b) if so, what efforts have so far been made by Government to seal such border so that the Myanmarese rebel outfits could be prevented from crossing over to the North-Eastern States; and

(c) whether the Centre's apathy/ad-hocist policy towards the North-East has come under scathing attack from several regional forums; if so, what steps Government of India propose to take to find out some lasting solutions to this ticklish problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) The Government has seen the editorial and is concerned about the security situation in certain parts of the North-Eastern Region.

(b) Owing to the long and difficult terrain of the Indo-Myanmar border, it is not considered feasible to completely and effectively seal the entire border. However, security force personnel have been deployed at identified points. Further, in pursuance of the Agreement signed in January, 1994 with the Government of Myanmar, four Indo-Myanmar sectoral level meetings have been held with a view to increasing cooperation for curbing activities of a negative nature and for maintenance of peace and tranquility along the border.

(c) A series of measures have been taken under the policy of the Government to deal firmly with those indulging in violent activities while simultaneously continuing efforts to encourage them to join the mainstream of national life, provided they abjure violence and agree to work within the Constitution of India. In addition a multipronged strategy is being followed for dealing with the complex set of factors afflicting the North-Eastern States including its economic development.

AK party meet on TADA Issue

468. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to dilute or withdraw the Terrorist and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Act;

(b) whether it is also a fact that situation in Kashmir, North-East and in other parts of the country warrant measures to deal with insurgency and anti-national activities;

(c) what are the legal provisions available to Government to meet the aforesaid situations;

(d) whether Government propose to convene an all party meet to arrive at a consensus in this matter; and

(e) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (e) All aspects of the matter, including the issues arising out of the Supreme Court Judgement on TADA, are under examination of the Government.